

2 February 1987
MBK-7004

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau -- January 1987

I. GENERAL

A. Following up a decision by Headquarters designed to help reduce Hong Kong Bureau's workload in selected areas, Bangkok and Hong Kong coordinated to effect a shift of New Zealand and certain AFP coverage to Bangkok. Arrangements have been made to transfer the two New Zealand papers Hong Kong now covers, and Bangkok became responsible 1 February for AFP coverage of all of Asia except the PRC, Taiwan, and the Philippines. Bangkok has also taken over Hong Kong's worldwide AFP coverage commitments.

B. The Bureau's staff cruising officer succeeded in monitoring Arabsat's C-band satellite transmissions late in the month. The 26 degree east longitude satellite is at the lower edge of the ROSET's look angle and Bangkok appears to be on the periphery of the satellite's footprint. Nevertheless, by month's end television transmissions from Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Kuwait as well as radios from Qatar, Oman, and Bahrain had been identified.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Violence and terrorism in India's Punjab, continuing ethnic riots in Pakistan, and a serious increase in tensions between the two countries over military buildups on both sides of their common border kept the South Asian Unit busy during the month. On a number of occasions the Bureau stayed past its normal close to clear late-night priority items. On the 16th, the Bureau initiated an open watch on Indian media following reports of a plane hijacking. Contradictory reports were monitored before it was definitely established that the incident was actually an exercise by Indian security forces. The Indian officials involved were roundly criticized from many quarters for allowing things to get out of hand. Then on the 20th, special staffing was arranged to cover and text the 2-hour press conference by Indian Prime Minister Gandhi on the second anniversary of his coming into office. At month's end talks between India and Pakistan were continuing in an attempt to defuse the tension on their border. Large-scale Indian military maneuvers apparently caused Pakistan to send additional troops to the region which in turn prompted India to dispatch more of its troops to the area.

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2. On the 9th, the Bureau began monitoring reports from Vietnamese media confirming military clashes with China. Apparently the fighting lasted about 3 days and was fairly serious as these clashes go with Vietnam claiming its forces killed "nearly" 1,500 PRC troops.

3. The Bureau used the ROSET to monitor the opening of the current session of Indonesia's parliament on the 6th and the major policy speech by President Suharto on that occasion. ROSET provided very clear reception of the speech -- something not always the case with our normal monitorability of Indonesian radios.

4. Hanoi radio began carrying the lengthy Vietnamese law on "Marriage and the Family" after the National Assembly approved the final version in December. NEAD, however, has agreed to pick up processing from the press. The Bureau did not have a copy of the earlier draft version which would have greatly facilitated efforts to provide consistent wording in the translation of complex terminology.

5. On the 27th, the Bureau began covering several satellite circuits on the 60 east Intelsat normally devoted to one-time television feeds for possible coverage of a military rebellion in the Philippines. Several items were filed along with two VSLs and a number of FYIs. The Bureau remained on the satellite after the rebels gave up to cover subsequent developments including the 2 February plebiscite on the draft constitution. The Bureau shared in a commendation message from Chief of the Daily Reporting Division for the "quick pick up and continued coverage" of the event.

B. Lateral Services

1. A representative of the Defense Attache's Technical Liaison Office at the Embassy contacted the Bureau to discuss receiving a range of wirefiled FBIS services. After going over their needs it was determined that virtually all of them could be met by standing lateral services categories, and a message was sent to LRB asking they be added to thirteen packages.

2. The American Embassy in Vientiane requested one item during the month.

3. The Consulate in Songkhla, Thailand requested one item in January.

STAT

C. Cruising

STAT

A satellite signals identification effort involving Bureau staff cruiser [] Okinawa staff cruiser [] and a TDY signals analyst was conducted from 13-16 January. The effort was very productive and permitted the FBIS cruisers to learn to recognize a large number of signals. Although the Bureau cannot demodulate these signals, the cruising officers are able to identify many of them. Recordings of still unidentified signals have been sent to Hqts .

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D. Technical

The adaptable facsimile printer and associated equipment was delivered to Bang Ping on 29 January, awaiting installation in February by a TDY engineer.

III. ADMINISTRATIONA. Personnel

1. [] was promoted to GS-12 effective 4 January. STAT
2. Editorial trainee [] arrived for a 3-month TDY on 15 January. STAT
3. Malaysian Monitor [] knew how to reverse the run on baby girls at the Bureau. He and his wife adopted a baby boy, [] at the end of last year. STAT
4. Indonesian Monitor [] wife continued the new trend by giving birth to [] on 22 January. STAT
STAT

B. Building and Grounds

On the 29th, the Bureau Chief met with 10 members of a State Department Foreign Buildings Office group to discuss Bureau space requirements in the proposed new chancery. Later the same day the FBO group visited the Bureau to view the current premises. The group returned on 2 February to take advantage of the panoramic view from the Bureau roof of several possible sites. A site selection for the new embassy is expected during the first week of February.

IV. VISITS

A. To the Bureau: Okinawa Bureau cruiser [] for orientation and signals recognition training, 6-20 Jan; signals recognition trainer 11-17 Jan; [] ADD and LEC contractor 21-25 Jan to survey Bureau's FBA-1 requirements; Chief FEB [] 31 Jan-4 Feb; 10-member FBO embassy site selection team 29 Jan; [] on private travel 13-14 Jan, including visit to Bang Ping; and [] also on private travel, 16 Jan. STAT
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B. From the Bureau: Chief Engineer [] and Bureau Chief toured the VOA transmitter site near Sara Buri on 27 Jan; Bureau Chief received an overview briefing on 28 Jan from chief of the Technical Liaison Office of the Defense Attache's Office. STAT

[]
Chief, Bangkok Bureau

Attachment: Monthly Production Report
RMB/cia

BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JANUARY 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	760,470
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	269,780
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,662

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	20,825 min.	29,310 min.	265.00 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

INDIA

Delhi Domestic Service in English	21,210		
Delhi PTI in English		650	
Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English	1,910		

INDONESIA

Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian	7,130		
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MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English		8,430	
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PHILIPPINES

Manila Television Feed in English	1,230		
Manila ITN Television in English	410		

SRI LANKA

Colombo Lanka Puwath in English		15,200	
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IV. OUTPUT FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	19,390		
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	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>AUSTRALIA</u> (continued)			
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English			790
<u>BANGLADESH</u>			
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	8,930		
Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English			1,070
<u>BURMA</u>			
Rangoon Domestic Service in English	300		
Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	6,900		
<u>CAMBODIA</u>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	32,790		
Phnom Penh SPK in English		12,280	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		8,030	
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing International Service in Burmese	340		
Beijing International Service in Indonesian	190		
Beijing International Service in Lao	1,440		
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	1,540		
Beijing in Hindi to India	190		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	15,560		
(Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay	2,910		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	6,240		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	22,570		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	4,490		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay	830		
(Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil	4,900		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>CLANDESTINE (continued)</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of The Tigers in Tamil	920		
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		48,300	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	2,980		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	45,950		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		3,510	
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			1,210
Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English			1,620
Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English			6,410
Delhi PATRIOT in English			5,130
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English			1,730
Madras THE HINDU in English			3,880
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	970		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	7,380		
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			3,520
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			670
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			600
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Laos	36,630		
Vientiane KPL in English		18,890	
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	4,970		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	2,770		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>MALAYSIA (continued)</u>			
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	500		
Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay			820
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu External Service in English	180		
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in English	2,330		
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	1,130		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	11,930		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	22,280		
Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English			7,350
Karachi DAWN in English			1,040
Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English			3,700
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	2,360		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			970
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	4,220		
Colombo DAILY NEWS in English			2,700
Colombo SUN in English			1,900
Colombo WEEKEND in English			790
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	5,470		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	4,810		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	2,440		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	4,990		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>THAILAND (continued)</u>			
Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	550		
Bangkok Television Service in Thai	2,010		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			21,640
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			6,500
Bangkok THE NATION in English			33,330
Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai			500
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			8,040
Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai			490
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			3,540
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			2,150
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese			1,060
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia	990		
Moscow in Hindi to India	730		
Moscow in Lao to Laos	1,490		
Moscow in Thai to Thailand	600		
<u>UNITED KINGDOM</u>			
London BBC World Service in English	1,400		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in English	3,720		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	690		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	119,060		
Hanoi VNA in English		2,960	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			55,660
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			5,360